

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 /026 W

----- 110843

O 161649Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9829

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MONROVIA 2670

EXDIS

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), OTRA, LI

SUBJ: SCHEDULE PROBLEMS AND TENTATIVE SCENARIO FOR SECRETARY'S
VISIT TO LIBERIA

REF: A) STATE 091804, B) MONROVIA 2668

1. EMBASSY IS NOT IN POSITION TO PROVIDE BY COB APRIL 16
SCENARIO FOR VISIT TO LIBERIA BASED ON PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S
CONCURRENCE. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS MADE PROPOSALS ON SCHEDULE,
DRESS, PERSONS TO BE PRESENT, GIFTS, ETC., BUT PRESIDENT TOLBERT,
WHO IS ONLY ONE IN THIS COUNTRY THAT CAN DECIDE THESE MATTERS,
HAS NOT YET MADE HIS DECISIONS. ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER FOR
AMERICAN AFFAIRS MINIKON SAID APRIL 16 THAT HE EXPECTS TO HAVE
PRESIDENT'S DECISIONS APRIL 21, PERHAPS APRIL 20 AT EARLIEST.
(PRESIDENT WILL BE OUT OF TOWN OVER EASTER WEEK-END; FACT THAT HE
IS MINISTER OF GOSPEL PROBABLY WILL PREVENT HIS FOCUSSED ON OTHER
THAN RELIGIOUS MATTERS IN THIS TIME PERIOD.) MINIKON STRESSED
THAT SCHEDULE WORKED OUT BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHARGE,
UPON WHICH ALL OUR PLANNING HAS BEEN BASED, NOT FINALLY SETTLED
UNTIL APPROVED BY PRESIDENT. HE INTIMATED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT PROV-
IDENCE ISLAND VISIT IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL OPTIONS PROPOSED
(EMBASSY BELIEVES FEAR OF RAIN, NOW THAT RAINY SEASON HAS BEGUN,
MAY BE IN GOL PLANNERS' MINDS) AND THAT PRESIDENT'S DINNER MAY BE
SCHEDULED FOR AS LATE AS 9:00 P.M.

2. MINIKON MADE VERY FORCEFUL PRESENTATION OF WHAT HE IDENTIFIED
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AS GOL VIEW THAT LIBERIANS HOPE AND EXPECT THAT ANY IMPORTANT

STATEMENT MADE BY SECRETARY ON AFRICAN MATTERS WOULD BE MADE IN LIBERIA. HE POINTED OUT THAT BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY WOULDN'T MAKE ANY IMPORTANT STATEMENT OF BRITISH POLICY ON AFRICA IN LIBERIA, BUT WOULD DO SO IN ONE OF FORMER BRITISH DEPENDENCIES. LIBERIANS BELIEVE ANY SUCH STATEMENT BY AMERICAN STATESMAN ON AFRICAN CONTINENT SHOULD BE MADE HERE "TO LET OTHERS KNOW THAT THERE ARE SPECIAL TIES" BETWEEN U.S. AND LIBERIA. MINIKON SAID THAT GOL HAD HEARD THAT SECRETARY INTENDED TO MAKE TWO IMPORTANT STATEMENTS ON AFRICA IN COURSE OF TRIP, AND THAT ONE WOULD BE MADE IN LUSAKA. EMBOFF HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THERE WAS ELEMENT OF COMPLAINT IN MINIKON'S PRESENTATION THAT LUSAKA HAD ALREADY BEEN SELECTED AS SITE FOR MAJOR SPEECH OVER MONROVIA. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MINIKON WAS ASKING THAT ANY OTHER MAJOR STATEMENT BE MADE HERE. (EMBASSY SUSPECTS GOL GOT WIND OF POSSIBLE SECOND SPEECH FROM AMBASSADOR PEAL, ALTHOUGH WIRELESS FILE DID MENTION POSSIBILITY, AND GOL DOES RECEIVE COPY. EMBASSY HAS NOT MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF SECOND MAJOR STATEMENT MENTIONED STATE 081915.)

3. MINIKON CONFIRMED THAT GOL HAS NO OBJECTION TO ARRIVAL OF SECRETARY'S ARMORED LIMOUSINE. HE NOTED THAT GOL INTENDS PROVIDE LIMOUSINE OF ITS OWN, BUT THAT GOL WOULD NOT HESITATE TO LET EMBASSY KNOW IF USE OF SECRETARY'S LIMOUSINE SHOULD BE REQUIRED.

4. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S VIEW OF HOW SCENARIO WILL DEVELOP:

APRIL 30

10:45 A.. ARRIVE ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.. MET AT PLANESIDE BY FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS, JR., CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AMBASSADOR DESHIELD, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER D. ELWOOD DUNN, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS CHRISTOPHER MINIKON, OTHER OFFICIALS OF LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT, AMBASSADOR CARTER, MEMBERS OF COUNTRY TEAM, INCLUDING DCM, EMBASSY SECTION CHIEFS AND HEADS OF USIAD, USIS AND U.S. MILITARY MISSION.

PROCEED TO TERMINAL FOR DENNIS' WELCOMING REMARKS
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AND SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT.

11:00 A.M. MOTORCADE TO PRESIDENTIAL GUEST HOUSE - 40 MINUTES.
FOREIGN MINISTER AND AMBASSADOR CARTER WILL
ACCOMPANY SECRETARY.

11:40 A.M. ARRIVE PRESIDENTIAL GUEST HOUSE - 30 MINUTES
PERSONAL TIME.

12:10 P.M. MOTORCADE TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE -10 MINUTES.
AMBASSADOR CARTER WILL ACCOMPANY.

12:20 P.M. LUNCHEON AT RESIDENCE FOR AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN.
PRESENT WILL BE MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S PARTY,
AMBASSADOR CARGER, DCM MAURICE D. BEAN, ECONOMIC/
COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR ASHIDA AND U.S. BUSINESSMEN
TO NUMBER AGREED UPON. SEE MONROVIA 2668.

2:20 P.M. MOTORCADE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY - 10 MINUTES.
AMBASSADOR CARTER WILL ACCOMPANY.

2:30 P.M. MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS, JR.
ALSO PRESENT WILL BE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SIAFA
SHERMAN, ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHER
MINIKON, AMBASSADOR CARTER, MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S
PARTY.

2:50 P.M. MOTORCADE TO EXECUTIVE MANSION - 10 MINUTES.
FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS WILL ACCOMPANY.

3:00 P.M. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR.
ALSO PRESENT WILL BE FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS,
ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER DUNN, AMBASSADOR CARTER,
MEMBER(S) OF SECRETARY'S PARTY.

4:00 P.M. MOTORCADE TO PROVIDENCE ISLAND - 10 MINUTES.
FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS WILL ACCOMPANY.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 /026 W
----- 111016

O 161649Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9830

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 MONROVIA 2670

EXDIS

4:10 P.M. VISIT TO PROVIDENCE ISLAND MUSEUM; PERFORMANCE BY NATIONAL CULTURAL TROUPE (DANCERS). ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR CULTURE BAI T. MORE WILL CONDUCT TOUR. ALSO PRESENT WILL BE FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM EDWARD KESSELY, ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER MINIKON, AMBASSADOR CARTER, MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S PARTY.

5:10 P.M. MOTORCADE TO PRESIDENTIAL GUEST HOUSE - 10 MINUTES. AMBASSADOR CARTER WILL ACCOMPANY.

5:20 P.. PERSONAL TIME - 30 MINUTES.

5:50 P.M. MOTORCADE TO RESIDENCE - 10 MINUTES.

6:00 P.M. PRESS CONFERENCE AT RESIDENCE.

6:30 P.M. PERSONAL TIME - ONE HOUR.

7:30 P.M. MEETING WITH EMBASSY STAFF.

7:50 P.M. MOTORCADE TO EXECUTIVE MANSION - 10 MINUTES. AMBASSADOR CARTER WILL ACCOMPANY.

8:00 P.M. DINNER AT EXECUTIVE MANSION HOSTED BY PRESIDENT TOLBERT. LIBERIAN GUESTS WILL INCLUDE ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CABINET MEMBERS, SPEAKER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE OF SENATE, CHIEF JUSTICE, HEADS OF AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, GENERAL SECRETARY OF TRUE WHIG PARTY, MAYOR OF MONROVIA, SUPERINTENDENT OF MONTSERRADO COUNTY, PROMINENT CITIZENS. AMERICAN GUESTS WILL INCLUDE SUCH MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S PARTY AS HE DESIGNATES; AMBASSADOR CARTER; DCM; EMBASSY COUNSELORS; HEADS OF USAID, USIS, U.S. MILITARY MISSION, AND PEACE CCORPS; PROMINENT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN.

MAY 1

8:05 A.M. MOTORCADE TO ROBERTSFIELD - 40 MINUTES.

8:45 A.M. DEPARTURE CEREMONIES. STATEMENTS BY SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS. PRESENT WILL BE SAME PERSONS AS AT ARRIVAL.

9:00 A.M. DEPART FOR DAKAR.

5. ON SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN ABOVE SCENARIO, EMBASSY SEES FOLLOWING AS PRESS OPPORTUNITIES (STATE 091804, PARA 1), AND OFFERS COMMENTS AS INDICATED:

APRIL 30

10:45 A.M. ARRIVAL RIA - PRESS TO COVER ARRIVAL STATEMENT, STILL AND TV PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. USIS TO DISTRIBUTE ARRIVAL STATEMENT.

2:30 P.M. MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER - TV AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE ONLY. NO PRESS STATEMENT OR QUESTIONS FROM PRESS RECOMMENDED PRIOR TO MEETING WITH PRESIDENT.

3:00 P.M. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT - SAME AS FOR MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER.

4:10 P.M. VISIT PROVIDENCE ISLAND - TV AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE ONLY. NO PRESS STATEMENTS OR QUESTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM PRESSMEN RECOMMENDED IN VIEW OF PRESS CONFERENCE TO FOLLOW SHORTLY.

6:00 P.M. PRESS CONFERENCE.

8:00 P.M. DINNER BY PRESIDENT TOLBERT - TV AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. USSI WILL DISTRIBUTE ADVANCE COPIES OF SPEECH TO PRESS.

MAY 1

8:45 P.M. DEPARTURE STATEMENT - TV AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. USIS TO DISTRIBUTE DEPARTURE STATEMENT. BEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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